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Economic and Social Council

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Commission on the Status of Women
Fifty-sixth session
27 February-9 March 2012

Draft report

Rapporteur: Filippo **Cinti** (Italy)

Organization of the session

A. Opening and duration of the session

1. The Commission on the Status of Women held its fifty-sixth session at United Nations Headquarters on 14 March 2011 and from 27 February to 9 March 2012. The Commission held _____ meetings (1st to __).

2. The session was opened by the Chair of the Commission, Marjon Kamara (Liberia), who also made a statement.

3. At the 2nd meeting, on 27 February 2012, statements were made by the President of the Economic and Social Council and the Deputy Secretary-General.

4. At the same meeting, statements were made by the Under-Secretary-General and Executive Director of the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN-Women) and by the Chair of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

5. Also at the same meeting, the distinguished keynote speakers, Ms. Anne Tutwiler, Deputy Director-General of the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, and Ms. Elisabeth Atangana, President of the Plateforme régionale des organisations paysannes d'Afrique centrale, addressed the Commission.

6. At the 6th meeting, on 29 February, copies of the report of the Special Rapporteur on Violence against Women were circulated to the Commission.

7. At the ___ meeting, on 8 March, the Chair of the Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues made a statement.

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B. Attendance

8. The session was attended by representatives of States members of the Commission. Observers for other States Members of the United Nations and for non-member States, representatives of organizations of the United Nations system and observers for intergovernmental, non-governmental and other organizations also attended.

C. Officers of the Commission

9. In accordance with paragraph 2 of Economic and Social Council resolution 1987/21, the officers are elected to the Bureau of the Commission for a term of office of two years. The following officers were elected at the 1st and 2nd meetings of the fifty-sixth session, on 14 March 2011 and 27 February 2012, to serve on the Bureau of the fifty-sixth and fifty-seventh sessions:

Chair:
Marjon Kamara (Liberia)

Vice-Chairs:
Irina Velichko (Belarus)
Carlos Enrique García González (El Salvador)
Filippo Cinti (Italy)
Ana Marie Hernando (Philippines)

Vice-Chair-cum-Rapporteur:
Filippo Cinti (Italy)

10. At the 2nd meeting, on 27 February, the Commission elected, by acclamation, Filippo Cinti (Italy) and Ana Marie Hernando (Philippines) as Vice-Chairs.

D. Agenda and organization of work

11. At its 2nd meeting, on 27 February, the Commission adopted its agenda as contained in document E/CN.6/2012/1. The agenda read as follows:

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Follow-up to the Fourth World Conference on Women and to the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly, entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century":
   (a) Implementation of strategic objectives and action in critical areas of concern and further actions and initiatives:
      (i) Priority theme: the empowerment of rural women and their role in poverty and hunger eradication, development and current challenges;
      (ii) Review theme: financing for gender equality and the empowerment of women;

(b) Emerging issues, trends and new approaches to issues affecting the situation of women or equality between women and men: engaging young women and men, and girls and boys, to advance gender equality;

(c) Gender mainstreaming, situations and programmatic matters.

4. Communications concerning the status of women.

5. Follow-up to Economic and Social Council resolutions and decisions.

6. Provisional agenda for the fifty-seventh session of the Commission.

7. Adoption of the report of the Commission on its fifty-sixth session.

12. Also at the same meeting, the Commission approved its organization of work, as contained in document E/CN.6/2012/1/Add.1.

E. Appointment of the members of a working group on communications on the status of women

13. Pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolution 1983/27, the Commission established a working group to consider communications concerning the status of women. In accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 2009/16, the following five members, nominated by their regional groups, were appointed to the working group of the fifty-sixth and fifty-seventh sessions:

Ms. Li Xiaomei (China)

Ms. Fatima Alfeine (Comoros)

Mr. Ruben Armando Escalante Hasbún (El Salvador)

Ms. Noa Furman (Israel)

Mr. Grigory Lukyantsev (Russian Federation)

F. Documentation

14. The list of documents before the Commission at its fifty-sixth session is available from www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/csw56/documentation.htm.